



BE AN ENVOY OF THE QURAN

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As Ramadhan prepares to uphold the dignity of the Quran, being an envoy of the Book is the only justification

The Basic Needs....food, water, clothing, shelter... the list goes on if one describes the material needs of human beings. To be precise, there are moral and spiritual needs too like religion, social acceptance, happiness, love, intimacy etc. Be it physical or moral, the needs must be fulfilled as an assurance of a normal life.

The pages of human history bear testimony to the tireless efforts of human beings for realizing the basic needs. Somewhere it appears that humans have succeeded in getting what they needed; somewhere failures have occupied the spotlight followed with merciless violation of human-rights. The human history has many bright and dark shades.

No doubt, the needs need to be addressed as without relieving a person from the pain of hunger or thirst his humane behavior is hard to anticipate. The physical and spiritual requirements are quite significant and demand highest degree of attention and seriousness; any imbalance would disturb the life with an equal measure of ill consequences.

Guidance is one of the basic needs of humans. It's imbibed in their very nature to know the "truth" and get acquainted with the authenticity of the right path. By right path we mean it should lead and guide towards true recognition of

the Creator not towards the created being. By straight path we mean it has to facilitate a jovial relationship between God and man. The path must also specify the modes with which one can be friendly with fellow human beings and serve them selflessly. This right path should also articulately specify healthy ways to fulfill the necessities of life. One should not feel overburdened being an adherent of the path; rather feelings of the heart being beautified, enriched and adorned with lofty values should prevail. No one can dare to differ with the basic need of getting such a comprehensive idea of the right path.

Why Humans Require Guidance?.....Because it's a basic need, just look at these aspects, a man grows and the way he learns things, the necessity of guidance comes into focus. It is with mentoring and monitoring that man continues his learning process. Right from the lap of a mother to the last journey to the grave, man heavily relies on someone to guide or help things get better. Again, the surrounding universe has a loud and clear message; it reveals that an Authority is behind disciplined appearance and functioning of the things all around. The Authority is directing and guiding the heavenly objects to be precise in their motion, speed, distance and course of actions. The imperative of the matter is man should follow the guidance of such an Authority.

It is but natural that the things which have been originated remind of their Originator. If one looks at historical monument surely the King would come into picture. Same is the case when we talk of intelligent boys or girls that

they remind us of their parents. Since the universe has been created, if one ponders over the heavens, the earth and the things around, chances of recognizing the True Creator could maximize. If one walks over the earth and its paths, one sense of realization is that the path leads to a certain destination; another sense of realization actually helps unravel the hidden truth. That through an act of walking a person realizes that he has undertaken a journey and it ends with his destination. The reality of life is, the commencement of journey happens as soon as a person takes birth and it ends with his death as destination and eventually he gets back to the One Who created:

وَجَعَلْنَا فِي الْأَرْضِ رَوَاسِيَ أَنْ تَمِيدَ بِهِمْ وَجَعَلْنَا فِيهَا فِجَاجًا سُبُلًا لَّعَلَّهُمْ يَهْتَدُونَ

We have made therein broad highways (between mountains) for them to pass through: that they may receive Guidance (Chapter Al-Anbiya 21: 31).

Clarity and Criterion Needed for Guidance... To be guided and on the right path, one requires certain basic things from the source the guidance is sought. Clarity of things and a criterion to distinguish between there merit and demerit is quite inevitable without which understanding the situation and taking a right decision would be quite difficult. Just think of a bi-lane over which your vehicle stopped; what would you prefer to do at the crossroads to proceed in the right direction and reach the destination comfortably? In view of the prerequisites of 'Clarity' and 'Criterion' you are sure to opt for the way which is clear and easier of the available two of a bi-lane, isn't it?

When we say the Quran is Book of guidance for the entire humanity it implies that it has been sent down by the Creator with these two basic prerequisites of the guidance that is 'Clarity' and 'Criterion'. Have a look at the verse:

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنْزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ

Ramadhan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'an as a guide to mankind also clear (Signs) for guidance and a criterion to judge (between right and wrong) (Ch 2 - Al: Baqarah: 185).

The Quranic Clarities: The Quran prudently explains these parables. Be attentive, connect your heart with the Quran, read it carefully and reflect over its verses, you are sure to find that teachings are crystal clear and they have been illustrated beautifully in an appealing way. There description is so fascinating that everything forms an astonishing world of its own. Let us take a look at a few glimpses of Quranic Clarities.

To illustrate that Allah is one (*Oneness of God*), the teachings are not that hard and plain, rather they have been explained clearly embellished with the aesthetic sense. Just go through the following verses of the Quran and see how the concept of Oneness of God has been adorned with things spread across the universe and exist in & around us:

The Universe (Ch 22 - Al-Hajj: 18)

Day & Night (Ch 31 - Luqman: 29)

Food (Ch 80 - Abasa: 24-25)

<i>Cultivation</i>	<i>(Ch 56 - Al-Waqi'a: 63)</i>
<i>Water</i>	<i>(Ch 56 - Al-Waqi'a: 68)</i>
<i>Fire</i>	<i>(Ch 56 - Al-Waqi'a: 71)</i>
<i>Under Ground Water Stream</i>	<i>(Ch 67 - Al-Mulk:30)</i>
<i>Rain, Greenery</i>	<i>(Ch 22 - Al-Hajj: 63)</i>
<i>Sea, Ship</i>	<i>(Ch 22 - Al-Hajj: 65)</i>
<i>Birds</i>	<i>(Ch 24 - An-Noor: 41)</i>
<i>Colourful fruits</i>	<i>(Ch 35 - Al-Fatir: 27)</i>

The Quranic Criterion: As far Criterion for judgment is concerned, the Quran helps us distinguish between:

<i>Virtues and vices</i>	<i>(Ch 41 - Fussilat: 34)</i>
<i>Active and passive</i>	<i>(Ch 4 - An-Nisa: 95)</i>
<i>Bad things and good things</i>	<i>(Ch 5 - Al-Maeda: 100)</i>
<i>Blind and the one who sees</i>	<i>(Ch 6 - Al-Anam: 50)</i>
<i>Darkness and light</i>	<i>(Ch 13 - Ar-Rad: 16)</i>
<i>Dull and intelligent</i>	<i>(Ch 16 - An-Nahl: 76)</i>
<i>Bodies of salt and sweet water</i>	<i>(Ch 35 - Fatir: 12)</i>
<i>Alive and dead</i>	<i>(Ch 35 - Al-Fatir: 22)</i>
<i>Literate and illiterate</i>	<i>(Ch 39 - Az-Zumar: 9)</i>
<i>Companions of fire and Garden</i>	<i>(Ch 59 - Al-Hashr: 20)</i>

The Quran principally explains the essential matters, doesn't go into elaborative details, trusts the human intellect and provides with all that needed to know the truth. Once the truth is apparent, the human intellect

precisely blends with it to proclaim that the Quran is free of doubts and confusions and shows the path that is straight and leads to eternal success.

To form a vibrant relation with the Quran and to reap its benefits depends on how well you understand and practice the following:

1. Faith in the Quran implies compulsory reading, following it as per understanding and memorizing its verses as per capacity.
2. The basic necessities have their own role in our life without which life has no meaning; the Quran too has a pivotal role more effective than what our basic needs play in our life. The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) exemplifies the significance of the Quran with a parable similar to our basic needs. He (pbuh) said: the Quran is a dining table that Allah has spread out for you; make use of it as per your need. The way one gets the bodily needs fulfilled with the dining table, this Divine Dinning Table - Quran - has the strength to fulfill the spiritual needs.
3. The Quran supplements to our thoughts that develop over the period of time, be it a matter of day or the age itself or history of the past nations. Whatever we experience and observe, the Quran directs our intellect to the righteous path and helps us form a realistic perception about past and the present to ensure a better future.
4. The Quran provides solutions to the problems that we face. To find out the solutions one has to

sincerely try for Quranic application at individual and societal levels.

5. The rise and fall solely depends on the nature of our relation with the Quran. It shows path of success to those who blend their dreams, actions and hopes with its teachings.
6. Attractive and charming persons of highest rankings are those who have the Quranic verses preserved in their hearts.
7. On the Day of Judgment the Quran either favors or opposes us. It favors if we follow its teachings otherwise not.

Stand-up, be an ENVOY of the QURAN.....

We are being trained in the month of Ramadhan to reach to different levels of understanding the Quran. We have been advised to read the Quran, listen to it during standing in the night (*Taraweeh*) with a sole intention to epitomize its true spirit through words and actions. This attitude makes us God fearing (*Muttaqi*) and enables us to discharge the responsibility of presenting the Quran as a Book of guidance to the compatriot brothers. Stand up, be an envoy of the Quran to revolutionize the personalities and ensure changes in and around you.



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